

2/18/71

Dear Senator Ervin,

Thank you for your letter of the 12th and the enclosed (very good) speeches.

In this envelope is a copy of my today's letter to the University of Minnesota about one of the kinds of incidents that interests you. If they respond, I'll send you a copy.

I say "if" because to this very day I have had no response from either Secretary of the Army's general counsel.

What makes this silence all the more grievous, and especially in connection with my rights and your interests in everyone's rights, is that in each case I asked to be equipped with what I require, under their regulations, for use of the misnamed "Freedom of Information" law.

I have already enjoyed the in-court experience of having the government claim I had not exhausted what they described as my "available administrative remedies" simply because after five months they had not responded to my appeal as their own regulations require of them.

I hope that at some time you can expand your inquiry to include the official effort to render this law (5 U.S.C. 552) meaningless. I have some of the more informative chapters and verses for you, correspondence from the Department of Justice, court papers, etc. Their record is incredible, even to one who has read his Orwell with care and concern.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg